

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Lieutenant Terry McManus

Date: May 18, 2009 (Monday) Homicide Unit Time: 2315 hours (619) 531-2275

POLICE INVESTIGATE SHOOTING DEATH IN LOGAN HEIGHTS

(San Diego) San Diego Police Department Homicide Unit detectives are investigating a shooting incident that left one man dead earlier today.

At 6:13 p.m., officers received a radio call of a shooting in the 800 block of South 30th Street. The caller stated that they heard the sound of gunfire, and believed that a victim was injured in front of their home. Responding officers found a male suffering from an apparent gunshot wound, on the sidewalk in front of the above address. Emergency medical intervention was attempted however the victim did not survive the injuries and was pronounced dead at the scene at 6:25 p.m.

The shooting is believed to be gang related, however the specific motivation for the attack is not known at this time. The investigation has revealed that the victim and two other subjects were involved in a verbal confrontation prior to the shooting. Homicide detectives are working with gang unit detectives to evaluate witness statements and develop leads. The murder suspect has been described as a Hispanic male, 18-20 years old, wearing a San Diego Padres baseball cap backwards, and a white t-shirt. He is further described as having a "buzz cut" hairstyle. The suspect was accompanied by another Hispanic male, 18-20 years old with very short hair, who was also wearing a white t-shirt. A vehicle possibly involved in the shooting was located by patrol officers shortly after the incident. It has been impounded for evidentiary purposes and will be examined at a later date.

The victim has been identified as 18-year-old Martin Omar De La Torre, a resident of San Diego.

Anyone with information about this incident is encouraged to contact the Homicide Unit at (619) 531-2293 or San Diego County Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477.